

**From:** Chau, Shun-Ping [Chau.Shun-Ping@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 7/16/2018 12:16:22 PM  
**To:** R8 OSC Dispatcher [R8\_OSC\_Dispatcher@epa.gov]; Poulet, Chris [Poulet.Chris@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Price River Oil Spill - NRC#1218208 & 1218210 Update 7

As of July 15, 2018, at 5:00 pm approximately one-third of the river has been cleaned up. It was estimates approximately two-thirds of the spilled crude has been recovered.

At approximately 7:15 pm, a storm surge/flash flood came though and took out all three sets of booms. In anticipation of the storm, the responders have put up another set of booms approximately 13 miles downstream from the spill location. ***Tree trunks and debris floating down the river have dislodged the last set of booms.*** A beaver dam was completely destroyed.

Drinking water intakes downstream have been notified. ***Even though Green River is 80 miles downstream, stakeholders have been notified.***

***On July 16, 2018, at approximately 5:00 am, upon further inspection, virtually no product remains on the river or on the banks. A thorough survey will be conducted today.***

***Beavers and muskrats have been spotted and they appeared to be active and clean (no visible signs of oil on their fur). Three baby ducklings were freed from an overturned boom and survived the ordeal.***

An update will be provided when more information becomes available. Please contact EPA Phone Duty OSC at 303 884 0437 for questions.

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#### **BACKGROUND**

On July 12, 2018, 10:00 pm a tanker truck with a trailer pod carrying 12,000 gallons of crude discharged approximately 1,000 gallons of crude and 100 gallons of diesel into Price River (which eventually flows into the Green River). The initial estimate was 7,000 gallons of crude was discharged onto the banks. As the response progresses it was determined that only 3,000 gallons reached the banks. Contaminated soils are being excavated.

On July 13, 2018, 2:15 am EPA's oil spill contractors from Salt Lake City arrived on scene. EPA Response OSC and START contractor arrived on scene on at 8:00 am. Carbon County Emergency Management have booms set at three locations: 400 yards from the spill, 1.5 miles, and 2 miles downstream. In addition, the canal company is taking approximately 98% of the water above the spill location, bypassing the spill, and returning the water to the river below the second set of booms. There has been road construction on this portion of Highway 6 and oil is pooling in a "pond" resulted from the road being torn up, which facilitates recovery.

There is no Tribal land nearby and no BLM land contiguous to the river banks. A message was left with Department of Interior even though there has not been any report of fish and wildlife impact. BLM was also notified. Drinking water intake and the majority of crop irrigation intakes are above the spill location. The few crop irrigation intakes below the spill location are protected by booms. No fish or wildlife impact has been reported.

On July 13, 2018, at approximately 10:00 am, there was a log jam above a canal dam that was opened due to concerns of potential overflow. Responders were unaware of the canal being opened for an estimated 10 minutes. As a result, the large increase in water and an unknown amount of oil overwhelmed the three sets of existing booms and gushed downstream. Two additional sets of booms were deployed 3 miles downstream from the initial spill location: one set was deployed by the trucking company's environmental contractors and the other set, approximately 600 feet below the first set, was deployed by EPA's ERRS contractors. The new boom locations are preventing oil from traveling further downstream. The confluence with the Green River is approximately 80 miles from these booms, therefore the responders are quite confident that oil will not reach the Green River.

On July 14, 2018 at approximately 5:00 am, a pick-up truck went between the two bridges and slid into the river. It was retrieved from the river by 7:00 am. The only impact was a slight sheen. The driver was unhurt.

Responders will be walking the river banks and continue the survey for oil. The crude has formed into a waxy, clumpy floating material and can be (and will be) recovered with nets. EPA's oil spill contractors from Salt Lake City will be demobilized at the end of the day. The booms will be left in place for an additional 5 to 7 days. Carbon County Sheriff's office will check on the booms and will notify EPA's contractors when they are safe to be removed.